dents and casualties during the last three years is as under:—

Year	No. of train accidents	No. of casualties	
		Killed	Injured
1984-85	812	356	858
1985-86	717	214	681
1986-87	644	267	777
1987-88 (April—October)	323	102	242

(c) Some of the important safety measures taken to make rail travel safer are:—

(i) Intensification of field inspections and counselling of staff;

(ii) Identification of accident-prone areas by High level Safety Teams and initiating remedial measures;

(iii) Introduction of modern technological aids like ultrasonic testing of rails and rolling stock axles, provision of track circuiting, axle-counters, auxiliary warning system, etc., subject to overall availability of finance.

(iv) Programmed rehabilitation of rolling stock track, signals gears, bridges and other assets.

(v) Improvement in quality of staff training.

(vi) Intensification of Safety Campaigns.

Resentment in Air-hostesses

456. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a widespread resentment in Air-Hostesses as they are compelled to wear aprons while on flight duty;

(b) the reasons for taking such a decision; and

(c) steps Government propose to take to remove resentment among air-hostesses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Indian Airlines has introduced wearing aprons by air Hostesses during service. This has been done on the recommendations of Chief Air Hostesses with a view to preserving and protecting crirsness and neatness of Air Hostesses' uniforms and also to control a flapping palloo. There is no wide-spread resentment among air hostesses, though a few of them represented.

(c) Does not arise.

Increase in Cargo Handling Capacity of Ports

457. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cargo handling capacity of some of the major ports is being increased in a phased manner over the next few years;

(b) if so, whether the capacity of the Visakhapatnam port is also being increased; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) It is planned to increase total Port capacity from 132.73 million tonnes as on 31-3-85 to 161.45 million tonnes at the end of the 7th Plan period.

(b) and (c) The Port capacity has already been increased from 12.70 million tonnes as on 31.3.85 to 16.70 million tonnes as planned for the 7th Plan period.

Fluorosis in the Capital

458. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that fluorosis has hit more than 5,000 people in the capital;

(b) whether the Government are also aware that fluorosis is caused either by excess of fluoride intake or by its deficiency;

(c) whether the Government are also aware that persons with diseased kidneys and other debilitating vital functions are highly susceptible to this disease; and

(d) if so, what preventive and curative steps Government are taking to rid the people in the capital from this disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) As per studies conducted by the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Delhi, and others, Fluorosis has been found prevalent in some parts of the capital.

(b) Fluorosis occurs as a result of excessive intake of flouride.

(c) The main route of fluoride excretion is the kidney. In case of disorders of kidney the fluoride retention is likely to be affected.

(d) The problem of fluorisis is being solved by providing fluoride free water supply sources in affected areas.

Flights During Night Time

459. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the international flights land at Delhi Bombay during nights;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is a ban on flying during nights in New York and Tokyo; and

(c) if so, the reasons for different rules and what are the regulation prescribed by the International Air Transport Association in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is night curfew at Tokyo (NARITA) airport only and no such restrictions at New York airport;

(c) International Civil Aviation organization (ICAO) has prescribed noise certification standards for different types of aircraft. Night restriction on aircraft operations is one of the measures to avoid the problem of aircraft noise in critical hours.

AIDS cases detected in the country

460. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that so far about 150 AIDS cases have been detected in India;

(b) if so, how many of these cases were nationals of this country and how many were foreigners; and

(c) what steps are the Government taking to detect and prevent potential AIDS carriers from entering this country and contributing to the spread of the disease?